--42. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a fusion polypeptide wherein the fusion polypeptide comprises a first subunit comprising at least one copy of a receptor binding domain of a ligand, the first subunit being fused to the N-terminal end of a multimerizing component, and the multimerizing component being fused at its C-terminal end to a second subunit comprising at least one copy of the receptor binding domain of a ligand.

43. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 42, wherein the receptor binding domains of the first and second subunits are the receptor binding domain from the same ligand.

44. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 42, wherein the receptor binding domain of the first subunit is a receptor binding domain derived from a different ligand then the receptor binding domain of the second subunit.

45. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 43, wherein the receptor binding domain of the first and second subunit is the fibrinogen domain of angiopoietin-1.

46. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 43, wherein the receptor binding domain of the first and second subunit is the fibrinogen domain of angiopoietin-2.

47. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 44, wherein the receptor binding domain of the first subunit is the fibrinogen domain if angiopoietin-1 and the receptor binding domain of the second subunit is the fibrinogen domain of angiopoietin-2.

48. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 44, wherein the receptor binding domain of the first subunit is the fibrinogen domain if angiopoietin-2 and the receptor binding domain of the second subunit is the fibrinogen domain of angiopoietin-1.

49. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a fusion polypeptide wherein the fusion polypeptide comprises a first subunit comprising at least one copy of the receptor binding domain of angiopoietin-1, the first subunit being fused to the N-terminal end of a multimerizing component, and the multimerizing component being fused at its C-terminal end to a second subunit comprising at least one copy of the receptor binding domain of angiopoietin-1.

50. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a fusion polypeptide wherein the fusion polypeptide comprises a first subunit comprising at least one copy of a receptor binding domain of angiopoietin-2, the first subunit being fused to the N-terminal end of a multimerizing component, and the multimerizing component being fused at its C-terminal end to a second subunit comprising at least one copy of the receptor binding domain of angiopoietin-2.

51. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a fusion polypeptide wherein the fusion polypeptide comprises a first subunit comprising at least one copy of a receptor binding domain of a ligand, the first subunit being fused to the N-terminal end of a multimerizing component, and the multimerizing component being fused at its C-terminal end to a second subunit comprising at least one copy of the receptor binding domain of a ligand.

52. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a fusion polypeptide wherein the fusion polypeptide comprises a first subunit comprising at least one copy of a receptor binding domain of a ligand, the first subunit being fused to the N-terminal end of a multimerizing component, and the multimerizing component being fused at its C-terminal end to a second subunit comprising at least one copy of the receptor binding domain of a ligand.

53. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 43, wherein the ligand is selected from the group consisting of the EPH family of ligands.

54. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 44, wherein the ligands are selected from the group consisting of the EPH family of ligands.

55. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 42, wherein the multimerizing component comprises an immunoglobulin derived domain.

56. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 43, wherein the multimerizing component comprises an immunoglobulin derived domain.

57. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 44, wherein the multimerizing component comprises an immunoglobulin derived domain.

58. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 55, 56, or 57, wherein the immunoglobulin derived domain is selected from the group consisting of the constant region domain of IgG, Fc domain of IgG, the heavy chain of IgG, and the light chain of IgG.

59. (New) A fusion polypeptide encoded by the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claims 42, 43, or 44.

60. (New) The fusion polypeptide of claim 59, wherein the fusion polypeptide is multimerized.

61. (New) A composition comprising the multimerized fusion polypeptide of claim 60.

62. (New) The composition of claim 61, wherein the multimer is a dimer.

63. (New) A vector which comprises the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claims 42, 43, or 44.

64. (New) An expression vector comprising a isolated nucleic acid molecule of claims 42, 43, or 44, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to an expression control sequence.

65. (New) A host-vector system for the production of a fusion polypeptide which comprises the expression vector of claim 64, in a suitable host cell.

66. (New) The host-vector system of claim 65, wherein the suitable host cell is a bacterial cell, yeast cell, insect cell or mammalian cell.

67. (New) The host-vector system of claim 66, wherein the suitable host cell is E. coli.

68. (New) The host-vector system of claim 66, wherein the suitable host cell is a COS cell.

69. (New) The host-vector system of claim 66, wherein the suitable host cell is a CHO cell.

70. (New) A method of producing a fusion polypeptide which comprises growing cells of the host-vector system of claim 66, under conditions permitting production of the fusion polypeptide and recovering the polypeptide so produced.

71. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a fusion polypeptide, wherein the fusion polypeptide comprises more than one copy of a receptor binding domain of a ligand, each copy fused in tandem, and wherein either the N-terminal or the C-terminal ends of the tandem receptor binding domains is fused to a multimerizing component.

72. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 71, wherein the receptor binding domains are fused contiguously.

73. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 71 or 72, wherein the ligand is not a member of the EPH family of ligands.

74. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 71 or 72, wherein the receptor binding domain is the fibrinogen domain of angiopoietin-1 or angiopoietin-2.

75. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 71 or 72, wherein the multimerizing component comprises an immunoglobulin derived domain.

76. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 75, wherein the immunoglobulin derived domain is selected from the group consisting of the constant region domain of IgG, the Fc domain of IgG, the heavy chain of IgG, and the light chain of IgG.

77. (New) A fusion polypeptide encoded by the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 71.

78. (New) The fusion polypeptide of claim 77, wherein the fusion polypeptide is multimerized.

79. (New) A composition comprising the multimerized fusion polypeptide of claim 78.

80. (New) The composition of claim 79, wherein the multimerized fusion polypeptide is a dimer.

81. (New) A vector which comprises the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 71.

82. (New) An expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 71, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to an expression control sequence.

83. (New) A host-vector system for the production of a fusion polypeptide which comprises the expression vector of claim 82, in a suitable host cell.

84. (New) The host-vector system of claim 83, wherein the suitable host cell is a bacterial cell, yeast cell, insect cell or mammalian cell.